



Richard Fimbres
Councilmember
Ward 5

Council Aides

Melinda Jacobs
Mark Kerr
Javier Herrera

Office Assistant

Heileen Evans

Interns

Daniel Treviso
Jonathan Simpson

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City of Tucson

Ward 5 Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

August 2012

Tucson Means Business

Since 2009, the Ward 5 Council office has moved to generate sales taxes which is the heart of City business.

Recently, several announcements were made about businesses opening new locations or companies relocating to Tucson, most of which, I am proud to say, are in Ward 5.

This means new jobs and consumer spending which results in new sales tax revenue being generated for the City of Tucson. The City of Tucson relies heavily on sale tax revenue to provide services, such as police, fire, parks and recreation, and street maintenance, for the constituents

During my time as your Councilmember, the Mayor and Council has had to deal with four budget deficits: \$33 million (Fiscal Year 2010 shortfall), \$44 million (Fiscal Year 2011), \$55 million (Fiscal Year 2012) and \$20 million (Fiscal Year 2013). Unlike other cities facing budget deficits, Tucson did not lay off any police or firefighters, nor did the City close any fire stations. The City of Tucson is providing services to its constituents, with less funds and with 1,100 less employees. The Mayor and Council learned through these budgets and discussions that you simply "can't cut your way out."

For the City of Tucson government to provide constituent services sales tax revenues need to be generated and we are beginning to see the "light at the end of the tunnel," thanks to the efforts of this Mayor and Council.

Thanks to the changes in City of Tucson policies, more than 70 new businesses have opened their doors in the past two and a half years.

The shining example is the Costco



Bruker Nano grand opening and dedication.

Tucson Means Business

store located at the Bridges Project in Ward 5, which generates \$2 million alone in sales tax revenue. It is one of the company's most successful locations in the United States. It also showed that there is a market to be tapped in Tucson's south side.

More than 110 jobs were created from this location alone not including the 220 construction jobs that were created to build the Costco.

During my time as your Councilmember, through this newsletter, I have reported on companies, from Costco, CAID Industries, Bruker Nano, Goodwill, Quikj Trip to the In and Out Burger franchise, either expanding or opening new locations in Ward 5, that have provided jobs and hope.

In August, three announcements have come out about businesses opening new locations or relocating to Ward 5 and Tucson.



One of the fastest growing technology driven and consumer electronic companies is opening their 11th store in Tucson, to be located in the Southgate Shopping Center, South Sixth Avenue and I-10.

La Curacao (lacuracao.com) is a leading large format retail department store chain ranking consistently among the top 50 consumer electronics retailers in the U.S. Founded in 1981, Curacao is headquartered in Los Angeles with retail locations in California and Arizona.

Curacao sells consumer electronics, home appliances, furniture, music, jewelry, and other merchandise which can also be shipped directly to Mexico or Central America via their export department.

The stores have an authentic Latin American ambiance featuring Spanish-language signs and bilingual salesclerks. Curacao sells most of its merchandise on credit to over two million private label cardholders.

The company's services also include Curacao Travel, Curacao Money Transfer, Pasito (Internet service provider), and CuraTel (long-distance calling services).

La Curacao held a recent job fair at the Holiday Inn-Airport and announced plans to open the new location in late September or October. This new location will provide 300 new jobs to Ward 5 and the Tucson market.



Recently, I participated in the announcement of Accelr8 Technology, who is moving their corporate headquarters from Denver Colorado, to Tucson. Accelr8 develops instruments used for the detection of pathogenic microorganisms. Its BACcel™ rapid diagnostic system, in development, is the first technology that is able to count and identify dangerous pathogens and their drug resistance expression within the same day of obtaining a patient specimen, instead of the two to three days required for standard methods.

This speed allows for a significant improvement in the treatment of the over 1.7 million people in the US who contract a hospital acquired infection each year. Accelr8 will bring high-skilled, high-wage jobs to Southern

Tucson Means Business

Arizona with plans to fill up to 65 positions over the next three years.

The company will be moving to space at the Pima County's Herbert K. Abrams Public Health Center, 3950 S. Country Club Road (located in Ward 5) and after a build out of wet lab space, the company is expected to be operational by early 2013.



North Carolina-based American Tire Distributors Inc. has purchased a land parcel at the southwest corner of Valencia and Alvernon to build a 125,000-square foot distribution center. Construction has begun and is projected to be complete by September 2012.

Capital investment in the land, equipment and building is estimated to be \$19.5 million. This project will have a projected \$5.5 million economic impact on the Tucson region. American Tire selected the Tucson region due to ease of logistical access, allowing the company to transport goods to points throughout the United States as well as internationally.

This distribution center will be designed to service tire retailers throughout Arizona, New Mexico, and California in conjunction with the company's Phoenix operation. The facility will employ 30 people and will be the company's second Arizona facility.

The effort isn't ending with these announcements. At the August meeting of the Mayor and Council, approved annexation of HVF West, located at 6581 E. Drexel. It is the boneyard for Davis-Monthan, where material recovery and disposition of airplanes is conducted.

Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges News

WAL-MART UPDATE

With the construction of the new Wal-Mart Super Center at the Bridges (Store #5626), the company has set up a temporary location for people to apply at 1010 East Palmdale, Suite 104. This new location will employ between 300-350 people.

The manager for this new store is Brian Shields. A temporary office has been set up at 1010 E. Palmdale, Suite 104 to accept application. The phone numbers for their temporary offices are 294-4204 and 294-4203.

If individuals are applying at other locations, they are encouraged to use Store #5626 on the application.

Wal-Mart also takes applications online and training is available and anyone hired before the opening of the store. This new location will open on October 26th.



Aerial photo of the new Wal-Mart. Taken May 2012.

Cherrybell Post Office Update

We continue to advocate for the Cherrybell Post Office. The postal reform bill, HR 2309, will be heard by the U.S. House of Representatives. All indications from the Committee and Republican leadership are that they intend to delay the vote on the bill until September, after Congress returns from the summer district-period recess.

We encourage you to call your U.S. House Representative at, 1-800-962-3524, and ask them to support H.R. 2309.



Cherrybell Post Office

Thanks to Connie Sadler and Matt Laos who have been working on this issue relentlessly. Connie Sadler is the President of the Tucson local American Postal Workers Union and can be reached at connietal@aol.com and Matt Laos has worked on this issue from the angle of how it will impact the local military can be reached at matthewlaos@yahoo.com.

909 E. 22nd Street



On August 1st, the collapsing building located at 909 E. 22nd Street, which had been an eye sore and health and safety hazard, was demolished.

A big thank you to the City of Tucson Code Enforcement and the City of Tucson Real Estate office for their work in this successful conclusion to this.



City News

Bring Back the Splash Finalist For Common Ground Award

The Ward 5 Council Office received word from the Metropolitan Pima Alliance, that "Bring Back the Splash" was named a finalist for the 2012 Common Ground Awards.

"Bring Back the Splash" was a collaboration of the private and public sectors, which not only helped the greater Tucson community, but also brought a new approach to problem solving.

The "Bring Back the Splash" Program received a \$100,000 in sponsorships and advertising from businesses, to help reopen six pools which had been closed. Businesses, such as Jim Click Automotive Group, Pima Medical Institute, Nova Home Loans and Royal Automotive, stepped up and made sponsorships for this effort. But this was only part of this story.

This idea began during budgetary meeting in January 2011, when Ward 5 Councilmember Richard Fimbres asked Fred Gray, the Parks and Recreation Director, about whether Parks could solicit sponsorships or advertising, such as on Recreation centers or in their guides.

Gray stated that there was an ordinance on the books which prohibited Parks from doing so. Councilmember

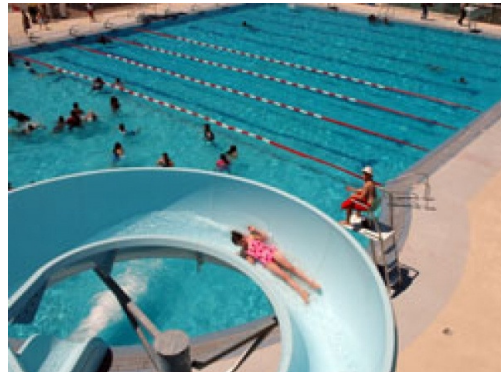


COMMON GROUND
CELEBRATION

City News

Fimbres brought a motion forward to repeal this ordinance, which had been on the books since 1986. By a 7 to 0 vote, on February 1, 2011, the Mayor and Council agreed to repeal this.

When the closing of 17 City pools happened due to budgetary constraints, the Mayor and Council were concerned about this, because of the lack of opportunities for people to swim and become healthier, as national trends show how swimming can make a person more physically fit. It also keeps kids off the streets and involved in positive programs.



Later in 2011, at the National Day of Prayer Breakfast in Tucson, Councilmember Fimbres was having a conversation with businessmen Doug Martin and Rick Stertz, and the subject of the pools closing came up. They asked if something could be done about it. Councilmember Fimbres told them about the Mayor and Council action to allow advertising and sponsorships at Parks Facilities.

Councilmember Fimbres had Martin and Stertz meet with the Parks Department to come up with an initiative, and launched a private-public partnership and effort to help Tucson's closed pools, and "Bring Back the Splash" was born.

Stertz and Martin were part of this effort. Another part was Crissy Perham, the former Olympic Gold Medalist and now community relations director for the Tucson Padres. Crissy did some wonderful public service announcements about "Bring Back the Splash."

Meanwhile, the Mayor and Council, as well as a local organization took action on this. With the agreement for a cell-telephone tower in Ward 5, in August 2011, Councilmember Fimbres directed the \$100,000 in revenue to be earmarked to open pools. Later in 2011, Councilmember Karin Uhlich directed the proceeds from the transfer of the Pascua Neighborhood Center to be directed the savings, of \$93,000, towards opening more pools. In addition, the Catalina Rotary Club raised \$25,000 to sponsor Jacobs Pool.

With the plan for the public/private partnership complete, it was presented to Mayor and Council. On January 18, 2012, the Mayor and Council affirmed their support for this with a unanimous vote.

Just after this Mayor and Council meeting, Tucson Police Chief Roberto Villasenor announced that RICO Funds, about \$100,000, will be used to sponsor swim lessons for 4,800 young people and provide swimming safety gear.

Six pools were opened in this effort, for this first year of "Bring Back the Splash,": Jacobs Pool, 1010 W. Lind St., Palo Verde Pool, 300 S. Mann Ave., Purple Heart Pool, 9800 E. Rita Rd., Mansfield Pool, 2000 N. 4th Ave., Menlo Pool, 1000 W. Fresno St., Himmel Pool, 1000 N. Tucson Blvd. Many swim lessons were able to be given and safety gear was able to be distributed as well.

Most importantly, was the approach taken by the public sector, in placing a new idea on the table, to have advertising at potentially all Parks and Recreation Facilities, the Parks Guides, golf courses, etc., and the private sector, coming to the table, shaking hands and making it work for the city pools, through "Bring Back the Splash."

Valencia Crossing Honored With Nomination

In addition, the Valencia Crossing annexation (Valencia and I-10 Area), which will bring in an additional \$32.5 million in initial revenues over the next ten years, was named a finalist for a Common Ground Award

City News

The Metropolitan Pima Alliance (MPA) is an alliance of business, government and non-profit organizations. MPA's goals directly relate to improving our region's quality of life and economic vitality and to that end, MPA strongly believes in the positive participation and contributions of the private business sector working in collaboration with local jurisdictions.

Kino Overpass Update

Construction of the Kino Parkway/22nd Street intersection project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2012 and construction is anticipated to last approximately 2 1/2 years.

Construction of 22nd Street from Kino Parkway to Tucson Boulevard is anticipated to begin in the third period of the RTA funding in 2015. However, as part of the planning process, residential properties were acquired in advance of construction on the north side of 22nd Street east of the Union Pacific Railroad bridge. These properties have been vacated and demolished and the construction of a buffer area with landscaping amenities has been completed.



Kino Overpass design concept

DMO Selection

Councilmember Richard Fimbres was named the Democratic Municipal of the Month for July. DMO or Democratic Municipal Officials commended Fimbres for his communication through his newsletter, Facebook, blog and City web pages, about what is going on in Ward 5, and what is happening in the City of Tucson.

The DMO also commended Councilmember Fimbres for his effort to bring an all Vote By Mail election process for the City of Tucson, which saved over \$600,000 and resulted in the best turnout since the 1999 Tucson general election.

Ward 5 Announcements

L.U.L.A.C. Community Service Awards

The 23rd Annual LULAC/FBI Community Services Awards Luncheon will take place Friday, September 21st at the Inn Suites Hotels, 475 N. Granada. The Arizona LULAC District 3 Councils and the F.B.I. have partnered once again to honor the selfless servants of society who day after day work to improve the community in which we live.

For 22 years, LULAC and the F.B.I. have worked together to honor outstanding citizens from Tucson and Arizona with their LULAC/F.B.I. Community Service Awards. Special Agent in Charge Mr. James L. Turgal for the F.B.I. in Arizona has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the luncheon and present this year's F.B.I. Community Service Awards. Tickets for the Luncheon are \$25. For more information please call (520) 903-2838.



AAA Giving Car Booster Seats Away

In the month of September, AAA of Arizona will be giving booster seats away, in the wake of the new booster seat law and for National Child Passenger Safety Week (September 16-22). This effort will have a stop in Tucson. For more information, call (602) 241-2945.

Ward 5 Announcements

Friends of the Pima County Library

Friends of the Pima County Public Library are accepting donations for books and audio/video materials. Donations can be made Monday thru Saturday from 9AM - Noon at any local library branch near you.

For more information please visit www.pimafriends.com or call 795-3763.



Congratulations and Thank You!

Pima County Adult Detention Complex Library

In early August, the Pima County Adult Detention Complex (PCADC) Library Unit reported a shortage of reading materials for the Inmate Population. Library Associate Wayne Carlson asked for assistance from the Pima County Reentry Coalition and a plea for assistance was sent out.

In response to Wayne Carlson's plea for books to help with this initiative, both Linda Leatherman and Sandy Lindblad of Pima County's Faith-Based Program contacted Libby Stone of Friends of the Pima County Library and were afforded the opportunity take any paperback books that met the criteria that Wayne had set forth. Wayne had compiled a written request for books by specific authors, of specific genres, and in good condition.

After spending 4 hours culling through the books, about 880 books were found that met the criteria. An additional 60 paperbacks were donated by Vikki Marshall of the Pima Community College Governing Board.

In all, 15 boxes with a total of 940 books were filled and delivered to the PCADC with an estimated value of \$4,600. This initiative has helped to establish new relationships and processes that can continue to be beneficial to the ADC Library in the future.

Because of their selfless dedication in answering Wayne Carlson's plea, the following individuals were recognized by the Pima County Sheriff's Department and the City of Tucson Ward 5 Council Office for their assistance with this effort (Who are in the pictures accompanying this article.): **Vikki Marshall** - Governing Board Member District 3, Pima Community College, **Libby Stone** - Executive Director, Friends of the Pima County Public Library, **Laura Anderson** - Administrative Assistant, Friends of the Pima County Public Library, **Sandy Lindblad** - Volunteer, Pima County Faith-based Program, **Linda Leatherman** - Coordinator, Pima County Faith-based Program, **Wayne Carlson** - Library Associate, Pima County Library - ADC and **Saudra Alvarez** - Office Support Level 3, Pima County Library.



The PCADC Library serves approximately 2000 inmates – male and female, adult and juvenile – housed at the Main Jail and the Minimum Security Facility.

The staff of the PCADC Library strives to provide many opportunities for these inmates to better themselves (or to occupy their time at the very least), promote safety, while awaiting sentencing or release.

The goal is to have a positive impact on the lives of at least some of the inmates and perhaps even play a small role in reducing the rate of recidivism.

Pastor Larry Rosette

On August 11, 2012, the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, 2403 S. Martin Ave., held a Celebration Service to commemorate the retirement of their beloved Pastor Larry Rosette.



Councilmember Richard Fimbres presented a Certificate of Appreciation and a Ward 5 Medallion of Hope from the City of Tucson. A framed Certificate of Appreciation from the Pima County Board of Supervisors was also presented by Linda Leatherman. The presentations to Pastor Rosette were acknowledged by a standing ovation from the congregation.

Sister Maria Teresa Apalategui

Congratulations to Sister Maria Teresa Apalategui who celebrated 50 years of vowed life in the service of the church. A Golden Jubilee celebration was held on Saturday August 25th., at St. Augustine's Cathedral.

Sister Maria Teresa was presented a Certificate, by Councilmember Fimbres, as well as a Ward 5 Medallion of Hope.

New Tucson Transportation Director

Daryl Cole has become the City of Tucson's newest Transportation Director. Cole had served as the Director for the City of El Paso (TX) Transportation Department and prior to that he had a long career, serving for over eighteen years as Director of Streets, and as an assistant director for almost six years prior to that.

I, along with neighbors and businesses will be meeting with Mr. Cole shortly, as well as the outgoing Interim Director, Tony Paez, about the 22nd Street—Kino to I-10 road project.



Ward 5 City Council Office
4300 S. Park Avenue
Tucson Arizona 85714

Phone: 520-791-4231
Fax: 520-791-3188
Ward5@tucsonaz.gov

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<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/wardfive>



badger73.blogspot.com/



[facebook.com/richard.g.fimbres](https://www.facebook.com/richard.g.fimbres)

Frequently Used Phone Numbers

Emergency Services

Tucson Police Department or Tucson Fire Department
DIAL 911

Permits

Planning and Development Services Department
791-5550

Housing Assistance

City of Tucson Community Services Department
791-4739

Tucson Convention Center

791-4101

Code Enforcement & Graffiti Removal
792-CITY (2489)

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services
City of Tucson Environmental Services Department
791-3171

Transportation & Street Maintenance
Tucson Department of Transportation

Tucson Water Department
Billing - 791-3242
Public Information - 791-4331

ParkWise
791-5071

Pima Animal Care
387-7502



Community Food Bank

Help those who are in need.
Give to the Community Food Bank.
For more information call: 520-622-0525

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Ward5@tucsonaz.gov
and include the word unsubscribe in subject line.